Kostelka (SB 203) **Act No. 735**

Prior law provided that it is a crime to make, issue, possess, sell, or otherwise transfer a counterfeit or forged monetary instrument of a state or a political subdivision thereof, or of an organization, with intent to deceive another person.

Prior law provided that a person convicted of monetary instrument abuse is to be fined not more than $1,000,000 but not less than $5,000 and imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than 10 years but not less than six months, or both.

New law provides that a person convicted of monetary instrument abuse is to be fined not more than $1,000,000 but not less than $5,000 or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than 10 years but not less than six months, or both.

Prior law defined a "monetary instrument" as a note, stock certificate, treasury stock certificate, bond, treasury bond, debenture, certificate of deposit, interest coupon, warrant, debit or credit instrument, access device or means of electronic fund transfer, money order, bank check, teller's check, cashier's check, traveler's check, letter of credit, warehouse receipt, negotiable bill of lading, certificate of interest in or participation in any profit-sharing agreement, collateral-trust certificate, pre-organization certificate of subscription, transferable share, investment contract, voting trust certificate, or certificate of interest in tangible or intangible property.

New law retains prior law and adds credit instruments and United States currency to the definition of "monetary instrument".

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 11, 2012).

(Amends R.S. 14:72.2(A) and (C)(3)(a))